

18 February 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: All PRD Officers

SUBJECT: PRD Review Activities
for RONI No. 2

1. Please plan currently for a three-month review period (February, March, April 1975) for RONI rather than two-month. Thus, we will plan to publish the next issue of RONI in late May.
2. More emphasis during this period should be placed on aperiodical and analytical issuances: NIEs, DIEs, Joint Memoranda, individual memoranda of significance, and Alert Memoranda. Pick important or controversial pieces, not run-of-the-mill material.
3. If a particular piece (say, an NIE) is especially interesting, try your hand at an extended "critical appreciation," which we could then run as a separate piece in the Special Studies and Commentaries Section. But clear this with C/PRD before doing so.
4. This time we will review the OCI Weekly (the version with the higher classification). No need for statistics--just get a good idea about coverage on your area and value of the book.
5. [] should, in addition, review OER's two economic weeklies for this period (guidelines same as for OCI weekly).
6. Review, as before, NIB and NID.
7. Compile statistics on DIN, as before, but no need for substantive review (unless something unusual).
8. We may wish to publish outcome of both Intell. Exercise [] and National Sitrep Test [] as special pieces.

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9. Please note that there is no need for an extended statistical analysis of coverage, KIQ relationship, etc. in your written report, since these figures will appear in graphics. Also, please be cautious when assessing quality and utility of overall output; note obvious triumphs and failures but avoid statistical breakdown of presumed proportions between the good and the marginal, since this is highly subjective and we are still feeling our way in this area.



Chief, PRD/IC

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cc: D/DCI/IC
AD/DCI/IC

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12 February 1975

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

1. I saw the DCI this afternoon and talked to him about the RONI. He approved the notion of his signing a statement for the inaugural issue, suggesting only that I add a reference in that statement to another publication, Studies in Intelligence, which deals with matters of professional intelligence concern. (I have so added.)

2. I called attention to a couple of specifics he was especially interested in when he read the sample issue, and I asked him whether he wished to review the draft "Highlights" section before we went to press. I said I didn't think it was necessary, but he might wish to anyhow. He said he did, and I left him a copy. He will get back to us. (I was pleased he wished to read it.)

3. I told him I thought it was unnecessary for him to read any of the other sections of the journal, either because they simply fleshed out what was in the "Highlights" section or dealt with wholly non-controversial issues or subjects with which he was already familiar.



Chief, IC/PRD

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Distribution:

O - D/DCI/IC ✓
1 - IC Registry
1 - PRD Chrono
1 - RONI
1 - RWS

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DRAFT/
3 February 1975

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NOTE RE RONI FOR DCI BRIEFING OF PFIAB

We are beginning something quite new--and promising--in the area of product review. (Late this month the IC Staff is producing the first issue of an aperiodic journal called the Review of National Intelligence. This represents an earnest and imaginative effort to organize the review of the Community's finished intelligence in a systematic way.

Briefly, this is what we hope to include in each issue of this new journal:

--A Highlights section which will wrap up the principal findings of the period under review (say, two or three months)--e.g., notable successes, apparent shortcomings, critical appraisals of both current and estimative intelligence.

--Another section which will treat individual areas and topics in detail and which will, in addition, provide statistical summaries of area coverage, collection sources, and the relationship of individual items and articles to the Key Intelligence Questions.

--Other sections which will permit (1) expanded treatment of individual studies, e.g., post-mortem reports; (2) responses from the readers of the Review; and (3) comments by the consumers of intelligence--e.g., the NSCIC Working Group and, if you like, PFIAB too--concerning either matters of general interest or comments on items which have appeared in the Review. We believe that, with contents of this nature, our Review can help to serve many purposes.

--We hope, in general, to assist the Community to raise the quality of its finished intelligence.

--We think this can be done by reviewing and evaluating all kinds of finished intelligence and, in a broad sense, ^{by} providing the producing offices with a measure ^{of} self-awareness.

--We will also be identifying various weaknesses and strengths, proposing solutions to specific problems, maintaining constructive pressures on the production offices, and developing detailed files of information concerning production trends.

--And we hope to provide a means and a medium
for regular feedback from the consumers.

As you can see, we are quite ambitious--we hope to
accomplish a great deal with this one vehicle.

The Product Review Division of the IC Staff has drawn
up a sample issue of the Review which reveals the format and
the kinds of substantive contents and statistical tables it plans
for future issues. I will be happy to show this to any of you
who are interested.